Improvement of National Highway No. 63

2724. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the newly declared National Highway No. 63 requires urgent improvements in phase I and II;

(b) if so, whether M/s. RITES has worked out cost of the estimated project;

(c) what will be the approximate cost of improvement;

(d) whether Karnataka Government has requested that the above project may be posed for external aid; and

(e) If so, the details of action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN) : (a) Improvement of a length of 132 Kms. of National Highway No. 63 from Ankola to Hubli in Phase I is already completed under ADB loan assistance at a cost of Rs. 96.02 crore.

(b) and (c) The cost of improvement of another 238 Kms. of National Highway-63 from Hubli to Andhra Pradesh border in phase II has been estimated as Rs. 171.10 Crore by M/s. RITES.

(d) and (e) The projects which are likely to be taken up in near future with External Aid have already been identified and this project does not figure amongst them.

Land Acquisition Proceedings in Link Road-II of NH-49

2725. SHRI C.O. POULOSE : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware about the fact that the acquisition proceedings for laying Link Road-II of National Highway No. 49 (Kochi-Madurai Highway) through Wards 25 to 28 of Tripunithura Municipality are going on in which 128 families are facing the threat of eviction and against this people's movement is going on;

(b) if so, the reasons for not considering the alignment proposed by Greater Cochin Development Authority (GCDA); and